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**Demographic
Information**

Population Estimate (2014)	54,993
Median Family Income (2010– 2014)	\$33,892
Unemployment Rate (US Bureau of Labor Statistics April 2015)	9.2%
% of persons living below poverty	25.9%
High School Graduate or higher (2010-2014)	77.6%

2014 US Census Bureau

2015 Edgecombe County State of the County Health Report

Edgecombe County Health Department

March 2016

Project REACH

Edgecombe County Health Department (ECHD) received funding to implement a primary pregnancy and STD prevention program in the Edgecombe County School System and in the community called Project REACH (Redefining and Empowering Adolescent and Community Health).

Project REACH consists of two comprehensive sexual health curricula, Making Proud Choices for 8th grade students and Reducing the Risk for 9th grade students. Project REACH is a five year grant with year one set aside for planning with the school

system and piloting the curricula in the school system as well as in community settings. Years two through five will be used for implementation of the curricula and evaluation of the programs effectiveness.

There are two key components of Project REACH that will take place outside of the classroom. The first component is the Community Advisory Group which will assist and advise in assessment, planning, design, implementation and evaluation of the program. The second key component

is the Youth Leadership Council. The Youth Leadership council will help connect the project to young people. The youth Leadership Council will help the Community Advisory Group by providing feedback from the youth to help improve quality of services. The Youth Leadership Council and the Community Advisory Group will work together to coordinate an effective community mobilization effort to raise awareness of Project REACH and the HIV/STD and teen pregnancy rates in Edgecombe County.

Emergency Department HIV Testing

The Emergency Department testing program is a collaborative project between Vidant Edgecombe Hospital and the Edgecombe County Health Department in which high risk patients using the emergency department are screened for HIV and Syphilis. There were 376 HIV and Syphilis tests



performed through the Emergency Department Testing Program in 2015. In this unique partnership, Vidant Edgecombe Hospital collects patient samples and information and the Edgecombe County Health Department completes the testing process and is responsible for all patient follow up as well as data collection.

2014 Leading Causes of Death in Edgecombe County

1. Heart Disease
2. Cancer
3. Cerebrovascular Disease

2014 North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, Health Data Query System

2013 Community Health Assessment Priorities for Edgecombe County

1. Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
2. Access to Care
3. Obesity and Weight Management
4. HIV/AIDS/STD's/Teen Pregnancy



Top Three Leading Causes of Death in Edgecombe County

According to the NC State Center for Health Statistics Health Data Query System, In 2014 the top leading causes of death in Edgecombe County were Heart Disease, Cancer and Cerebrovascular Disease. From 2010-2014, the 2016 County Health Data Book reported that in Edgecombe County there were 667 deaths

attributed to Cancer, 658 deaths attributed to Heart Disease, and 300 deaths attributed to Cerebrovascular Disease. Chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, stroke and even diabetes, are the most preventable of all health problems, and the most costly. "Seven of ten Americans who die each year, or more

than 1.7 million people, die of a chronic disease" (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). The major contributor to chronic disease such as heart disease and cancer is the lifestyles that individuals lead. Tobacco use, lack of physical activity, and poor nutrition are three prime examples.

2014 Deaths	Edgecombe County	North Carolina
Heart Disease	#'s = 131 Percent = 20.9%	#'s=17,547 Percent = 22.7%
Cancer	#'s = 127 Percent = 20.2%	#'s =19,301 Percent = 22.7%
Cerebrovascular Disease	#'s = 73 Percent = 11.6%	#'s =4,691 Percent = 5.5%

2016 NC State Center for Health Statistics

Progress Towards Priorities

Access to Care

- The Edgecombe County Rural Health Network exists to improve health outcomes for Edgecombe County Residents by achieving efficiencies and expanding access to coordinate and improve the quality of essential health care services.
- Edgecombe County Rural Health Networks has finalized network agreements to increase access to care.

HIV/AIDS/STD's/Teen Pregnancy

- Worked with Vidant Edgecombe Hospital on the HIV ED Testing Program, which tests high risk individuals seeking services in the emergency department. In 2015, 376 ED tests were performed. In 2015 the health department's Jail Health Program tested 172 inmates.
- Edgecombe County Human Services HIV/STD Taskforce serves to try and help educate, spread awareness, and ultimately decrease the number of HIV/AIDS/STD cases in Edgecombe County. The taskforce helped with the creation of a HIV/STD Peer Education Tool Kit used to educate the community on HIV/STD's and the statistics in Edgecombe County.
- Received funding to implement Project REACH, a primary teen pregnancy prevention program, in Edgecombe County Schools.

2015 Edgecombe County
State of the County

Progress Towards Priorities

Overweight and Obesity

- Planning with local agencies for a Healthy Youth Initiative Project.
- 208 gym and aquatic exercise classes have been offered.
- Eat Smart Move More Weigh Less (Church Group)- 15 week class, 6 participants
- Faithful Families Eating Smart Moving More– 9 week class, averaged 13 participants per class.

Chronic Disease

- The Chronic Disease Self Management Program had 219 patients referred to the program.
- 368 participants received education on improvement of quality of life with chronic illness, self management skill strengthening and overall improvement of care.
- 35 participants received nutrition counseling.
- 13 Lessons of Diabetes Workshops offered with a total of 82 participants.
- 12 Lessons of Blood Pressure Workshops offered with a total of 35 participants.
- 6 Community education events attended where community members were served with chronic disease management and prevention educational materials.
- 208 gym and aquatic exercise classes have been offered.

2010-2014 NC Diabetes and Cerebrovascular Disease Death Rates
*Rates Per 100,000 Population

	Edgecombe County	North Carolina
Diabetes	33.4	24.2
Cerebrovascular Disease	107.6	45.4

2015 County Health Data Book



- **Project REACH**



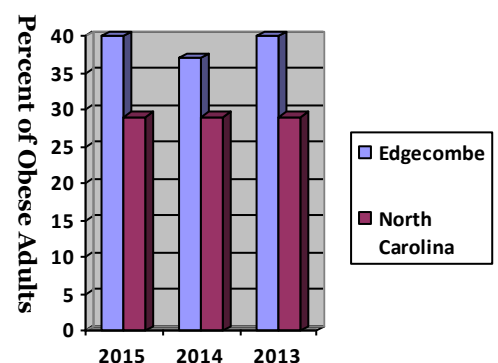
There is an extreme shortage of Mental Health and Primary Care Providers in Edgecombe County.

Mental Health:
citizen vs. provider ratio
28,271:1

Primary Care:
citizen vs. provider ratio
3,327:1

2015 County Health Rankings

Percent of Adult Obesity in Edgecombe County vs. North Carolina



40% of adults in Edgecombe County are obese.

(2015 County Health Rankings)

2010-2014 NC Cancer Mortality Rates

Rates per 100,000 Population

Cancer Site	Edgecombe County	North Carolina
Lung Cancer	55.5	51.8
Female Breast Cancer	31.0	21.7
Prostate Cancer	36.6	22.1
Colorectal Cancer	16.3	14.3

2016 County Health Data Book
NC Central Cancer Registry 12/2015

*Lung , Female Breast, Prostate, and Colorectal Cancers are the top four cancers attributing to the cancer death rates in Edgecombe County.

Edgecombe County Human Services Board HIV/STD Taskforce

Edgecombe County has been battling the fight against HIV/AIDS and other STD's for several years. In the most recent HIV/STD Surveillance Report, distributed by the NC Department of Health and Human Service's Communicable Disease Branch, Edgecombe County ranked #1 in the state for HIV, #2 in the state for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea, #3 for AIDS, and #10 for Syphilis.

In the 2013 Community Health Assessment, the community pinpointed HIV/AIDS/STD's and Teen Pregnancy as major issues that face Edgecombe County. The Edgecombe County Human Services Board saw the alarming county statics as a call to action to try and help educate, spread awareness, and ultimately decrease the number HIV/AIDS/STD cases in Edgecombe County. The Edgecombe County Human Services Board created a subcommittee called the Edgecombe County Human Services Board STD Taskforce. The STD Taskforce challenges any Edgecombe County Residents who are interested in being soldiers in helping educate and raise awareness to residents of Edgecombe County, to be part of the STD Taskforce.

Edgecombe County Rural Health Network

Edgecombe County Rural Health Network consists of several agencies in Edgecombe County including Edgecombe County Health Department, Vidant Edgecombe Hospital, Rocky Mount OIC, Rural Health Group, Carolina Family Health Centers, Eastpointe, Tar River Mission Clinic, Mental Health America and James McFalin Community Development.

The objective of the Edgecombe County Rural Health Network is to improve health outcomes for Edgecombe County Residents by achieving efficiencies and expanding access to coordinate and improve the quality of essential health care services.

2014 Edgecombe County STD Rates

rates per 100,000 population

Edgecombe County Rank	STD	Edgecombe Rate	North Carolina Rate
#1	HIV	30.9	13.6
#2	Chlamydia	1,014	501.9
#2	Gonorrhea	358.6	150.4
#3	AIDS	10.8	7.2
#10	Syphilis	14.6	11.2

2014 North Carolina HIV/STD Surveillance Report
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services